

THE KING'S KEN – 12 NOVEMBER 2009

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.

I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Praise be to you, O Lord; teach me your decrees.

With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth.

I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.

I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.

I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word." Psalm 119 9-16

It is often true of human nature that things that we don't have we want badly and things that we do have, we take for granted. Today is a worldwide prayer day for the persecuted church. In "closed" countries, such as Afghanistan, Iran, Yemen and the Comores, the Bible is scarce and, as a result, considered absolutely precious by believers in those countries. In our country the Bible is available freely in many different translations and most of the families at the King's School West Rand probably have many Bibles in their homes. While we are blessed and privileged to live in a country where this is possible, the danger lies in the Word of God becoming common place in our lives. Psalm 119 is a devotional on the word of God. The author was an Israelite who was passionately devoted to the Word of God as the word of life. At The King's School West Rand it is our desire that God's word never be underestimated in its power and preciousness and that somehow, by God's grace and through His Holy Spirit, the students understand that every time they open the Bible at school and at home, they open the most precious gift that they have ever been given and treat it as such.

In Hebrews, Paul warns the church of the danger of believers developing an "evil, unbelieving heart that departs from the living God." (Heb 3:12) He reminds them of the story of their ancestors who saw God's mighty hand in so many ways when he brought them out of slavery in Egypt and kept them through the desert and yet His miracles seemed to become common place for the Israelites which caused them to rebel and disobey God. Paul tells the Hebrews that in order for them to avoid developing an unbelieving heart that they should "encourage each other daily, while it is still called today, so that none of you is hardened by sin's deception" (3:13) Because of our human nature, so prone to forget, we need to remind each other daily of God's incredible goodness, provision, grace and mercy in our lives. We come "to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first." (3:14)

And so, as we come to the end of another year at The King's School West Rand, let us praise the Lord together for yet another year where we as a school have been blessed abundantly in every way! We thank Him for:

- Mr Langley and staff who have invested time and love into the lives of our children this year,

- A school where the Word of God is given its rightful place as foundational in teaching the students absolute Truth,
- Parents who are committed to Christian Education so that their children are grounded in the principles of God's Word,
- Board members who are committed to serving the Lord faithfully in the school and to doing His Will,
- God's wonderful provision of more facilities – buildings as well as sports fields;
- Lennie Willson, our builder, who has once again blessed us with an exceptional work ethic and devotion to the school, often going beyond what is required ;
- New students and families at the school;
- Mia Moms who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support the school wherever it is needed.

“ Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and Praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.” (Psalm 100: 4-6)

GWYN HANNINGTON

CHAIRPERSON: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Important dates for the 4th term

Homework Load Shedding	-	9 – 13 November 2009
Christmas Play (Gr. 1 – 3)	-	12 November 2009
Exams Start (Gr. 4 to 11)	-	16 November 2009
Gr. R Graduation Photos	-	30 November 2009
Gr. 4 to Gr. 7 Exams End	-	2 December 2009
Grade R Graduation	-	4 December 2009
Grade 7 Outing	-	2 December 2009
Foundation Phase Evening of Excellence	-	7 December 2009
Intermediate; Gr. 7 Evening of Excellence	-	8 December 2009
School Closes (Children)	-	9 December 2009
High School Evening of Excellence for 2009 presented in 2010		

FINISHING TIMES 16TH NOVEMBER - 9 DECEMBER

Grade RR – 3 - School closes at 12:00

Grade 4-11 - Children can be fetched after their exam (refer to letters sent home for details) or will be supervised in a waiting class until 12:00.

Aftercare children will be supervised until the aftercare staff takes over the care of the children.

Children do not need to be at school if they are not writing an exam.

Intermediate Phase children will need to be at school on 7 December for an Evening of Excellence practice from 07:30 to 12:00.

Reports will be handed out at the Evening of Excellence for the Foundation Phase (Grade 1 to Grade 3) on 7 December and Intermediate Phase (Grade 4 to Grade 7) on 8 December.

High School reports (Grade 8 to Grade 11) can be collected from the Administrative Office on 9 December from 07:30 to 12:00.

CAMP: 10-12 MARCH 2010

Start packing your bags for an adventure camp that will be remembered. Cost R600 per person to be billed and split over the February 2010 and March 2010 accounts.

SCHOOL CLOSURES ON FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER AT 13:00 FOR GRADE 4 TO GRADE 11

MATRIC 2009 RESULTS

Matric results to be released and collected on Wednesday 30 December 2009 between 08:00 and 09:00.

We pray for

Kyle Withuhn (Maragon Primary) passed away at the age of 12 years from cancer. He is a family member of the Withuhn family from our school.

THE UNFINISHED SOUL (CALVIN MILLER)

A Shepherd's Testimony

It was just after midnight when the gold broke all around us! The light stung my eyes. It was the worst I've ever felt, I tell you. I choked and gagged. I don't know why – I must have been allergic to all that light.

I was terrified. These big, silvery white beings belched out of the skies, like a tangled flock of big geese. Tall as Mount Hermon and big as Philistines. The sheep whelped like wolf cubs and hid their little black faces in each other's fleeces.

I turned to see how my fellow shepherds were doing. My friend Ben was worse off than I was. He was lying on the ground in a stone-cold faint.

Judah was still conscious, but he had his face hidden in his sleeve, muttering, "No, no no!" My skin started to crawl. My eyes twitched. The hair on my neck prickled and then tried to crawl down my collar.

I never in all my life was afraid till that night. The angels did it all. They burst upon me, forcing me into the sheer terror of seeing that much splendour at midnight. It was like the dark nightmares you have as a child, but it was a nightmare with all light. I saw everything, and I trembled.

"Fear not!" said one of the big fellows. (His message was half a coronary too late for Ben.) 'I bring you good news! A baby's been born. 'This day in the city of David, a Saviour And this shall be a sign unto you: you shall find the baby wrapped in clean cloths and lying in a manger.'

This I assume, was the way angels asked you to set out looking for stuff. The light was still eye-painful and bright, but I didn't have the nerve to say, "Please call off this light, would you?' All of a sudden the whole flock – or whatever you call a group of angels – started singing, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace to men of good will!"

Then they were gone, just like that! When all that light and noise was over, things got dark and quiet. The dark was so dark you couldn't see your hand in front of your face.

'You still there, Judah?' I whispered, still recovering from the whole thing. No answer.

'Judah,' I spoke a little louder now, 'are you there?'

'For pity's sake, be quiet. They might come back!' he said. 'Think we ought to do what they said and go look for the baby? Can we leave the sheep out here without one of us?' "They're not going anywhere; they're too paralyzed to move.' About this time Ben regained consciousness, and after we explained everything about the light and the angels and the whole chorus, the three of us started off towards Bethlehem.

We found the tiny baby and his folks just like the angels said. I don't know why this surprised us. There they were, and the baby was wrapped in clean cloths and lying in a manger. We didn't feel too comfortable barging in on the little family. And even though there was something kingly and queenly about the mother and father, they weren't dressed much better than Ben, Judah and I were. But it seemed the right thing to do, somehow just falling on our knees.

We didn't know what to say to the new parents. Judah said, "Congratulations on your new kid; the angels told us about him.'

Then Ben said, 'You must have been pregnant a long time.' I was the stupidest thing I ever heard anybody say. Judah elbowed him in the ribs for being so mutton-headed. Ben hardly ever left the sheep, so he never had developed much in the way of social graces. I guess it seemed logical to him.

The woman just smiled, to let him know he could be an idiot if he liked. I kind of glossed the whole thing over by saying, 'There must be something really special about your little baby, if angels are having a big party for him in the fields at night.'

Long after we got up off our knees and went back to the sheep, I kept thinking about that evening. I never will forget two things about that night: I'll never forget Ben's stupidity, and I'll never forget how beautiful that couple looked. They were peasants, I guess. Still, I've never stop wondering who they were and who their baby grew up to be.

HELP REQUIRED

Needed someone to assist a Grade 6 child with homework and supervision, 4 days a week in 2010. Please contact Michelle on 082 335 3057. Salary negotiable.

THE SCHOOL WEAR SHOP

Operating hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 08:00 – 12:00

If parents need assistance or to make alternative arrangements, please contact Liza on 072 108 3670.

FOR FRIENDS FRIDAY

Collection for **Friday 13 November 2009** will be **PASTA**.

20 November - Powdered Milk/Long Life Milk

27 November - Cleaning Products

In addition to the above, any warm clothes for children from 3 months to 9 years old will be greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT!

INTERMEDIATE PHASE

The Intermediate Phase does not write cycle tests this term. This will be a term of getting ready for the exams and a spellathon.

	9-14 Nov Week 5	16-21 Nov Week 6	23-28 Nov Week 7	30/11-5/12 Week 8	7-11 Dec Week 9
Grade 4	Revision week. Homework Load shedding.	Exams start		Exams End	
Grade 5					
Grade 6					
Grade 7					

COMPETITION



MISSING:

PLEASE HELP!!! Aunty Marlene's dog, Rocky, has run away AGAIN! If you can find this naughty dog, then enter the competition. There is a R10 reward for the first correct entry drawn.

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Rocky is hiding out in : _____

SKILLS ANALYSIS WITH THE EML PROGRAM

How would you like your child's attitude to learning, homework and general studies to move to the next level, regardless of their grades. The EML program helps to enhance and develop the necessary skills your child needs for academic excellence.

To book a skills analysis for your child contact **Gordon on 0741 432 836**

ART CLASSES

Art classes for young and old! Arts infinity Art school has been teaching art for over 28 years and is still going strong. Whether you need assistance with an art portfolio or just to rediscover your artistic side, come see what we have to offer! Registration for next year is now open so please contact Rona on 082 404 2088 or Nadia on 082 922 3119.

Toilet Friend

Toilet Odour Removal System

No more Spray Cans, No Embarrassment, No Open Windows, NO MAINTENANCE.

SMS or call us now for your 30day free Trial Installation or get up to R250 discount if you pay on installation day.

SMS kswr to 33903 or call Eddie Coetsee on 072-567 8932 to arrange for your trial installation.